

July 2003



Arizona State Board of Pharmacy

4425 W Olive Ave, Suite 140, Glendale, AZ 85302-3844
Web site: www.pharmacy.state.az.us
E-mail: vsevilla@azsbp.com

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

Executive Director Retires

Submitted by Llyn A. Lloyd

Many readers no doubt are aware that the "editor" is retiring. It is not good-bye or *adios*; it is *hasta la vista, amigos* . . . until we meet again! For more than 17 years, it has been my privilege and honor to have served as the executive director of the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy. Of course, every day has not been a bowl of cherries. Few positions (if any) afford that luxury to the incumbent, but undoubtedly and unquestionably there have been many more good days than bad ones! Several have asked what plans I have. My stock reply is, "I'm not looking for a rockin' chair . . . I'm looking for a change." Included in the change are plans to return to Idaho to reconnect with family and re-establish relationships with such things as a "trout stream and a fly rod," a "block of wood and a lathe," and to just smell some roses!

Over the past 17 years, it has given me great pleasure to brag about the "state of the practice of pharmacy" in Arizona. Many leaders in pharmacy call Arizona home; given the opportunity, I am more than happy to let folks know that. I am confident that Arizona pharmacy practice will only continue to improve.

Change and progress are an undeniable part of life. As I prepare for a new chapter in life, the Board of Pharmacy will be preparing for changes, too. The Board has selected Deputy Director Harlan "Hal" Wand as my successor. Many of you know Hal in his previous positions with the Board. He began his career as a compliance officer, then served as deputy director for nearly 10 years. Hal is a graduate of the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy and holds a master of business administration from the University of Phoenix. I join the Board in endorsing Hal as an excellent choice from a very well-qualified field of applicants. Hal is hard working, well organized, thorough, and dedicated to protecting the public health. I personally extend my best wishes to Hal for a long and productive tenure as executive director. At the risk of overlooking someone, for which I will beg your forgiveness in advance, it is important to me to recognize a few of the many friends and colleagues that have contributed significantly to my career. Without attribution: my family (parents, wife, and children); Al "Dunc" Duncan and Fred T. Mahaffey are two individuals that impacted my career significantly; colleagues and counselors that I have relied on including Danny Jacob, Evelyn Timmons, Si Eisenberg, Kathy Kalsman, Joe Rowan, Wayne Willer, Ed Saba, the past and present Board of Pharmacy administrative and compliance staff, especially our office manager, Ms Johnnie Teutschman, and three dear colleagues from my former state, C. E. "Cliff" Barnett, Jim Collier, and Rosemary Wells. These and many others are special folks that I greatly appreciate.

Board of Pharmacy Centennial

Established as the Territorial Board of Pharmacy in 1903, nine years prior to statehood, our predecessors established a tradition of "self regulation" for the purpose of protecting the public health and safety of Arizona citizens relating to the practice of pharmacy. Although our name has changed from the Territorial Board of Pharmacy to the State Board of Pharmacy, what has not changed is the Board of Pharmacy's dedication to protecting the public health and maintaining a dialogue encouraging an environment that allows and fosters pharmaceutical care and medication use management via the time-honored "prescriber-patient-pharmacist" triad plus the personal concern, care, and involvement of professional pharmacists. Have we reached perfection in these objectives? Certainly not, but considerable progress has been made and the vision burns brightly in the mission and goals of the Board of Pharmacy.

At the recent National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's 99th Annual Meeting, one presentation focused on the individual professional competence of every licensed pharmacist. The speakers took great pains in emphasizing and describing "professional competency development" as the inherent responsibility of every pharmacist and, in fact, every health care provider. Professional competency development includes continuing professional education. More importantly, it involves an individual pharmacist's commitment to assume personal responsibility for one's current professional strengths and deficiencies. It is my prediction that the majority of pharmacists would readily admit that continuing education (CE) as we know it today does not equate to "continuing professional development" (CPD). The typical two- or three-hour CE in your favorite pharmacy journal is well written by well-informed and well-intentioned providers; but environmental distractions and lack of enthusiasm (on the student's part) for the home study process may result in less-than-ideal outcomes. On the other hand, CPD incorporates a personal inventory of one's status and allows tailoring of course material to the interest and need of each pharmacist as opposed to the "hit-or-miss" approach the week before license renewal.

Given the benefits and the documented outcomes of "pilot programs" in CPD, it is not difficult to visualize the benefits – both to the patient and the practitioner. CPD appears to be a win-win opportunity for health care providers. Those interested in more information are encouraged to visit the Citizen Advocacy Center's Web site at www.cacenter.org. Be a risk taker, give CPD a try.

Legislation Update

Both of the Board of Pharmacy's legislative proposals have been approved by the legislature and have been signed by Governor

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 1

nor Janet Napolitano. The Board's compliance officers are distributing summaries of the changes to the Uniform Controlled Substance Act and to the Pharmacy Act. A copy of the "summary" is posted on the Board of Pharmacy's Web site for viewing and downloading.

Dispensing Reminder

As shown in the 2003 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) "Orange Book," **only** levothyroxine sodium-Mylan and Unithroid™ are AB rated, ie, are therapeutically equivalent, and, therefore, they are the only levothyroxine products approved for generic substitution if allowed by the prescriber:

Synthroid™, Levo T™, Novothyrox™, and ThyroTabs™ are **not AB rated and may not be interchanged for each other or for the preceding items**. It is important to know and observe the FDA Therapeutic Equivalency Ratings when selecting any product for dispensing. Arizona Pharmacy Statutes (ARS 32-1963.01) prevent a pharmacist from dispensing products that are **not** AB rated in the FDA "Orange Book." It is your license . . . protect it.

Note: See *Study Finds Dispensing Errors a National Problem* on Pages 2 and 3.

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order for Dennis K. McAllister, RPh, vice president of the Board of Pharmacy. At the recent National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) 99th Annual Meeting, Dennis was elected to the office of treasurer. Having served as a member of NABP's Executive Committee for two years, Mr McAllister opted to run for the office of treasurer and was successful.

Disciplinary/Reinstatement Actions

Board of Pharmacy

Jeffery K. Karp, RPh, #11009 – probation terminated, returned to "active" and "in good standing."

Stuart Gethner, RPh, #8860 – appeared to seek an opportunity to reinstate his revoked license; the Board agreed to allow reinstatement with the following conditions: 400 hours of internship, take and pass both the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination™ and Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination®.

John S. Bacovcin, RPh, #8306 – the Board agreed to terminate the suspension of his license and in lieu thereof to place the license on probation for the duration of his consent agreement.

Gregg Cluff, RPh, #10248 – the Board unanimously agreed to terminate the probation status of Mr Cluff's license and restore his license to "active" and "in good standing."

Bob Skaggs, RPh, #9014 – effective September 7, 2002, "probation" status of license was terminated.

Board of Medical Examiners

James Canavan, MD, #19964 – effective April 1, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Thomas A. Francis, MD, #18537 – effective April 3, 2003, license summarily suspended pending further action.

Alan I. Richman, MD, #25503 – effective April 1, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Roberto Lo Greco, MD, #20293 – effective April 8, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Lee Labadie, MD, #19078 – effective April 7, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Suzanne Munns, MD, #20007 – effective April 3, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Keith Levitt, MD, #26382 – March 12, 2003, termination of Probation/Restriction on prescribing lifted.

Wm Adams-Rappaport, MD, #15658 – March 12, 2003, license reactivated, placed on probation, prescribing okay.

Fredrick Cohn, MD, #3778 – effective February 24, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Frank Snipes, MD, # 20832 – effective February 20, 2003, voluntarily surrendered license to practice.

James Thomas, MD, #17089 – effective February 24, 2003, voluntarily surrendered license to practice.

Rachel Schacht, MD, #30018 – effective March 3, 2003, may not prescribe any medication.

Notice

Before making a prescription-dispensing decision pursuant to information reported in this issue, you are advised to verify the current status of a license with the appropriate licensing agency.

Page 4 – July 2003

The *Arizona State Board of Pharmacy News* is published by the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc, to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of the Foundation or the Board unless expressly so stated.

Harlan "Hal" Wand, RPh - State News Editor
Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh - National News Editor
& Executive Editor
Reneeta "Rene" Renganathan - Editorial Manager

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Chicago, Illinois
Permit No. 5744

ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc
700 Busse Highway
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068